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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application:

- 1. (Cancelled)
- 2. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein a dry film of the composition is substantive.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of no greater than about 1.0 wt-%.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer is present in an amount of no greater than about 15 wt-%.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the composition has a Brookfield viscosity of no greater than about 1000 cps.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the weight ratio of the film-forming polymer to hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer is at least about 0.25:1.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the composition reduces normal skin flora by at least about 1 log in 2 minutes on a dry human skin site using ASTM testing method E1173-93 and a 30-second scrub with gauze soaked in the composition using moderate pressure.
- 8. (Original) The antiseptic composition of claim 7 wherein the composition reduces

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normal skin flora by at least about 1.5 log in 2 minutes on a dry human skin site using ASTM testing method E1173-93 and a 30-second scrub with gauze soaked in the composition using moderate pressure.

- 9. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the composition reduces normal skin flora by at least about 0.5 log more than the same composition without the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer present when tested on a dry human skin site using ASTM testing method E1173-93 measured 2 minutes after completion of a 30-second scrub with gauze soaked in the composition using moderate pressure.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the antimicrobial agent is an iodophor comprising a carrier selected from the group consisting of a polyvinylpyrrolidone, a copolymer of N-vinyl lactam, a polyether glycol, a polyvinyl alcohol, a polycarboxylic acid, a polyacrylamide, a polysaccharide, and combinations thereof.
- 11. (Previously Presented) The antiseptic composition of claim 63 wherein the iodophor is povidone-iodine.
- 12. (Original) The antiseptic composition of claim 11 wherein the iodophor is povidone-iodine USP.
- 13. (Cancelled)
- 14. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[13]]59 wherein n = 1-
- 2.

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- 15. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer comprises lactic acid, malic acid, citric acid, 2-hydroxybutanoic acid, 3-hydroxybutanoic acid, mandelic acid, gluconic acid, tartaric acid, salicylic acid, lactones thereof, salts thereof, derivatives thereof, or combinations thereof.
- 16. (Original) The antiseptic composition of claim 15 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer comprises lactic acid, malic acid, citric acid, or combinations thereof.
- 17. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 further comprising a (C1-C4)alcohol.
- 18. (Original) The antiseptic composition of claim 17 wherein the alcohol to water ratio is preferably at least about 60:40 by weight.
- 19. (Currently Amended) The antiscptic composition of claim [[1]]58 which is substantially free of volatile organic solvents.
- 20. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the composition has a closed-cup flash point of greater than about 60°C using ASTM testing method D3278-96.
- 21. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the film-forming polymer is prepared from at least about 50 wt-% of one or more hydrophobic monomers, based on the total weight of polymer.
- 22. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the film-forming polymer includes side-chain functional amine groups.

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- 23. (Withdrawn) The antiseptic composition of claim 22 wherein the side-chain functional amine groups include protonated tertiary amines, quaternary amines, amine oxides, or combinations thereof.
- 24. (Withdrawn) The antiseptic composition of claim 23 wherein the film-forming polymer is prepared from at least about 15 wt-% of an amine group-containing monomer.
- 25. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the film-forming polymer is present in an amount of at least about 2 wt-%, based on the total weight of the antiseptic composition.
- 26. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein a dry film of the composition is substantially nontacky.
- 27. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the ratio of hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer to antimicrobial agent is at least about 4.0 grams hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer per gram available iodine.
- 28. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein the composition demonstrates a Draize score of zero in no greater than about 96 hours when tested according to the Rabbit Eye Irritation Test.
- 29. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 further comprising a surfactant.
- 30. (Original) The antiseptic composition of claim 29 wherein the surfactant is nonionic, anionic, or amphoteric.
- 31. (Withdrawn) The antiseptic composition of claim 30 wherein the surfactant is a

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nonionic surfactant with an HLB value of at least about 14.

- 32. (Withdrawn) The antiseptic composition of claim 31 wherein the surfactant is a nonionic surfactant with an HLB value of no greater than about 19.
- 33. (Withdrawn) The antiseptic composition of claim 32 further comprising an anionic or amphoteric surfactant.
- 34. (Withdrawn) The antiseptic composition of claim 33 wherein the anionic or amphoteric surfactant is selected from the group consisting of sulfonates, sulfates, phosphates, phosphonates, and ammonium sulfonate amphoterics, and mixtures thereof.
- 35. (Withdrawn) The antiseptic composition of claim 34 wherein the anionic surfactant comprises a polyalkoxylate group.
- 36. (Withdrawn) The antiseptic composition of claim 30 wherein the surfactant is an amine oxide.
- 37. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 wherein a dry film of the composition adheres to a PSA-coated tape at a level of at least about 50% of the level of adhesion of the PSA-coated tape applied over dried BETADINE surgical scrub and paint solutions when measured using a 180 degree peel test after applying the PSA-coated tape to a dry film on dry human skin by rolling with a 2.1-kg, 5.1-cm wide roller, waiting at least 1 minute, and removing the PSA-coated tape at a peel angle of 180 degrees at a speed of 30.5 cm/minute.
- 38. (Cancelled)
- 39. (Currently Amended) An antiseptic composition comprising:

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an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I_2 , an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-%;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least about in excess of 5 wt-%;

water; and

a <u>substantive</u> film-forming <u>cationic</u> polymer comprising hydrophilic and hydrophobic moieties[[.]];

wherein the composition is stable.

40. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) An antiseptic composition comprising:

an iodophor in an amount of greater than 5 wt-%, wherein the iodophor comprises a carrier selected from the group consisting of a polyvinylpyrrolidone, a copolymer of N-vinyl lactam, a polyether glycol, a polyvinyl alcohol, a polyacrylamide, a polysaccharide, and combinations thereof;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount in excess of 5 wt-%; and water[[.]]; and

a substantive cationic film-forming polymer;

wherein the composition is stable.

41. (Currently Amended) An antiseptic composition comprising:

an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I_2 , an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-%;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at-least about in excess of 5 wt-%;

water; and

a substantive cationic film-forming polymer;

wherein a dry film of the composition is stable and substantive and adheres to a

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PSA-coated tape at a level of at least about 50% of the level of adhesion of the PSA-coated tape applied over dried BETADINE surgical scrub and paint solutions when measured using a 180 degree peel test after applying the PSA-coated tape to a dry film on dry human skin by rolling with a 2.1-kg, 5.1-cm wide roller, waiting at least 1 minute, and removing the PSA-coated tape at a peel angle of 180 degrees at a speed of 30.5 cm/minute.

42. (Currently Amended) An antiseptic composition in a use concentration comprising:

an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I₂, an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-%;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of at least 6 wt-%;

water, and

a substantive cationic film-forming polymer.

wherein a dry film of the composition is stable and substantive and demonstrates one or more of the following characteristics:

reduces normal skin flora by at least about 1 log in 2 minutes on a dry human skin site using ASTM testing method E1173-93 and a 30-second scrub with gauze soaked in the composition using moderate pressure;

is substantially nontacky when in the form of a dry film;

demonstrates a Draize score of zero in no greater than about 96 hours according to the Rabbit Eye Irritation Test; or

adheres to a PSA-coated tape at a level of at least about 50% of the level of adhesion of the PSA-coated tape applied over dried BETADINE surgical scrub and paint solutions when measured using a 180 degree peel test after applying the PSA-coated tape to a dry film on dry human skin by rolling with a 2.1-kg, 5.1-cm wide roller, waiting at least 1 minute, and removing the PSA-coated tape at a peel angle of 180 degrees at a speed of 30.5 cm/minute.

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43. (Currently Amended) An antiseptic composition comprising:

an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I₂, an iodophor, and a combination thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-% to about 1.0 wt-%;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount of about in excess of 5 wt-% to about 15 wt-%;

water; and

a substantive cationic film-forming polymer;

wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer comprises a compound represented by the formula:

wherein:

R¹ and R² are each independently H or a (C1-C8) saturated straight, branched, or cyclic alkyl group, a (C6-C12)aryl group, or a (C6-C12)aralkyl or alkaryl group wherein the alkyl groups are saturated straight, branched, or cyclic, wherein R¹ and R² may be optionally substituted with one or more carboxylic acid groups;

m = 0 or 1; and

n = 1-3;

wherein the composition has a Brookfield viscosity of no greater than about 100 eps is stable.

44. – 53. (Cancelled)

54. (Currently Amended) The antiseptic composition of claim [[1]]58 which is a surgical scrub and reduces normal skin flora by at least about 1 log in 2 minutes on a dry

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human skin site using ASTM testing method E1173-93 and a 30-second scrub with gauze soaked in the composition using moderate pressure.

- 55. (Previously Presented) The antiseptic composition of claim 54 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer is present in an amount of at least about 6 wt-%.
- 56. (Previously Presented) The antiseptic composition of claim 55 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer is present in an amount of at least about 7 wt-%.
- 57. (Cancelled)
- 58. (Currently Amended) An antiseptic composition comprising: an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of I₂, an iodophor, and [[a]] combinations thereof, wherein the antimicrobial agent is present in an amount sufficient to provide an available iodine concentration of at least about 0.25 wt-%;

a hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer in an amount in excess of 5 wt-%; water; and

- a substantive cationic film-forming polymer;
 wherein a dry film of the composition is substantive stable.
- 59. (Previously Presented) The antiseptic composition of claim 58 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer comprises a compound represented by the formula:

$$R^1(CR^2OH)_n(CH_2)_mCOOH$$

wherein:

R¹ and R² are each independently H or a (C1-C8) saturated straight, branched, or cyclic alkyl group, a (C6-C12)aryl group, or a (C6-C12)aralkyl or alkaryl group wherein the alkyl groups are saturated straight, branched, or cyclic, wherein R¹ and R² may be

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optionally substituted with one or more carboxylic acid groups;

$$m = 0$$
 or 1; and

n = 1-3.

- 60. (Previously Presented) The antiscptic composition of claim 58 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer is present in an amount of at least about 6 wt-%.
- 61. (Previously Presented) The antiseptic composition of claim 61 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer is present in an amount of at least about 7 wt-%.
- 62. (Previously Presented) The antiseptic composition of claim 58 wherein the hydroxycarboxylic acid buffer is present in a use concentration of an amount in excess of 5 wt-%.
- 63. (Previously Presented) The antiseptic composition of claim 10 wherein the iodophore carrier is polyvinylpyrrolidone.